

# ONEIDA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS & SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Oneida County Highway Department Conference Room  
Thursday, February 6, 2025 8:00 a.m.

Attendance:	Present	Excused	Absent
Ted Cushing	X		
Mike Timmons	Phone		
Bob Almekinder	X		
Billy Fried	X		
Dan Hess	X		

**Present:** Alex Hegeman/Highway Commissioner and Dan Gleason/Highway

## 1. Call to order and Chairperson's announcements

Chairman Ted Cushing called the Public Works and Solid Waste Committee meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. noting the meeting was posted according to Wisconsin open meetings laws and ADA accessible.

## 2. Approve agenda (order of agenda items at Chairperson's discretion)

Motion by Almekinder/Hess to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

## 3. Approve minutes of the Public Works & Solid Waste Committee meeting held January 23, 2025

Motion by Hess/Almekinder to approve the minutes of the Public Works and Solid Waste Committee meeting held January 23, 2025. Motion carried

## 4. Public Comments

None

## 5. Future Meeting Dates:

- February 20, 2025
- March 6, 2025
- March 20, 2025

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

### 6. Vendor Vouchers and Invoices Paid Report for January 2025

Motion by Almekinder/Hess to approve the vendor vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

### 7. 2025 Highway Department Fee Schedule

Hegeman reported several counties charges fees differently and proposed adding an after the fact fee of \$500 for companies that do not apply for a permit before performing work. Hess commented the companies he had spoken with do not care if there was a fee adding they should include an inspection fee once the work was completed. Hegeman commented an inspection would not be feasible, as the department did not currently have staff available. Hegeman noted the issue was with the cable companies and not the utility companies such as WPS. Hegeman commented he left the amount of the utility permit blank but added it would be beneficial to build up a fund to help clean up after some of the contractors, especially those that come from out of State. Hess recommended charging \$500 with \$100

inspection for the open cut permit and \$100 for the regular permit and review the following year. Timmons commented any subcontractors should be listed prior to issuing the permit. Hess recommended increasing the cost of the driveway permit to \$100 in order to recover the cost involved. Both Cushing and Almekinder agreed with the proposed increase to the overweight permit on posted roads. Hegeman noted essential services such as septic pumping were exempt. For unposted roads, Hegeman reported so far he had only received one overweight permit application and suggested leaving the cost at \$0 to encourage more applications for permits.

Motion by Hess/Almekinder to approve the proposed fee schedule with the changes as presented. Motion carried.

#### **8. Facility Condition Assessment Update**

Hegeman reported James from Kraus Anderson was on site to access the facility and met with himself and committee members Almekinder and Hess prior to the current meeting to discuss their concerns. Hegeman reported James anticipated it would be four to six weeks before they receive the report and cost estimates.

#### **9. SC-888 Storm Sewer System**

Hegeman reported it would require an 8 to 10 foot deep ditch in addition to the possible purchase of land and installation of guardrail in order to run everything down the ditch line so he informed the Town chair the County still needed the storm sewer. Hegeman noted the County held a legal, existing easement for the storm sewer questioning the benefit and cost to the County to jump through all the hoops to move the storm sewer so the Town can build a new shop. Almekinder and Cushing agreed those costs should be the Town's and not the County's responsibility. Hegeman explained the Town Chair was of the firm belief the County's storm sewer was not functioning and therefore be removed. Hegeman explained he already had a considerable amount of time invested in this project but it was no longer a part of the summer work plan for 2025 because up until November, the Town indicated they would work around it. Hegeman explained he needed to investigate if the storm sewer was failing; however, it would most likely not happen in time for the Town to construct a shop in the current year. Timmons recommended informing the Town chair this would be a slow moving process.

#### **10. Steel Drum Roller Purchase**

Hegeman explained the original plan was to purchase one roller in 2025 and the second in 2026 with \$45,000 budgeted for 2025 but after finding two used rollers at a combined price of \$43,000, Hegeman requested to purchase both in 2025. Hegeman reported the current roller left over from the paving operations, was too large confirming both rollers currently owned would be sold following the purchase of the new rollers.

Motion by Hess/Almekinder to approve the Fabick roller at \$30,000 and the United Rental at \$13,000 to be purchased in 2025. Motion carried.

#### **11. Salt Conveyor Purchase**

Hegeman reported every year over the last 3 to 5 years they have needed to put money into the 1992 conveyor used for salt sand production, and although not a planned purchase, he proposed purchasing a new conveyor at a cost of approximately \$23,000 including shipping. Motion by Timmons/Cushing to ahead with the purchase of the conveyor. Motion carried.

## **12. Shop Truck Purchase**

Hegeman reported \$100,000 was budgeted during the CIP process to purchase a shop truck and although the proposed purchase was more, the truck included a crane and would use a lot of the existing equipment from the current shop truck.

Motion by Hess/Cushing to approve the shop truck purchase as presented at \$110,738.  
Motion carried.

## **13. Resolution for Shop Truck Purchase**

Hegeman explained because the purchase was over \$100,000 it required County Board approval.

Motion by Hess/Almekinder to approve the resolution as presented to move onto County Board as consent. Motion carried.

## **14. Equipment Updates**

Hegeman reported:

- Both chippers went down but the newer chipper was repaired
- The log truck went down but was also repaired
- Both skid steers went down but have been repaired
- The mastic kettle was down since December
- The scissor lift of truck 163 was broken but he hoped it would be repaired before the weekend
- Two other trucks went down earlier that morning with no extra trucks remaining
- Bid specs for the next patrol truck went out the previous week and were due on February 26 with a recommendation planned for the March 6 meeting before forwarding to County Board

Hegeman provided a breakdown and an explanation of the equipment hours over the previous 3 years in order to identify areas for improvement.

## **15. Upcoming STP and Local Bridge Solicitation**

Hegeman reported the next solicitation would come out in the third or fourth week of May noting the contract with Corre for the preliminary design, cost estimates and completion of the application for the CTH O Bridge.

Hegeman explained he put together an RFP to look at some projects and develop cost estimates including:

- A study of the Rondele Ranch expansion on CTH K
- Applying for STP funding for the portion of CTH H scheduled for 2029 possibly linking it with the safety project scheduled for 2028
- Applying for STP Urban funding for Kemp Street to address the potential issues with the base below the concrete and possibly removing the median and adding a twiddle lane. Timmons recommending asking the City for help with Kemp Street. Hegeman noted the City might consider cost sharing and/or taking over Kemp Street if it were brought up to the same standard as Lincoln Street.
- Applying for funding for the River Street project to replace storm drains and piping when replacing the curb and gutter.

Hess questioned if Rondele Ranch would be willing to contribute toward the CTH K project. Hegeman commented he would invite someone from Rondele to the next meeting and

following approval of the roster at the next meeting the RFP would be sent to the consultants.

#### **16. Complaint Status Report**

Hegeman reported there were a couple of complaints of chipped windshields and some damage to vehicles from brushing performed by Lincoln County on CTH L but he had also received some compliments on how good the brushing was on CTH L.

Hegeman reported a vehicle went off the road on USH 8 and the driver expected the operator who stopped to check on him to have the County pay to have the vehicle towed out and for any damages.

#### **17. Commissioner's Report**

Hegeman reported after both chippers went down they rented a chipper to continue with the brushing on CTH E and brushing continued on USH 51 noting the DOT agreed to rent another skid steer and forestry head.

Hegeman commented he had not yet received a response from DOT personnel regarding the letter sent to the DOT the previous Tuesday.

Hegeman reported the bid specs and plans for the CTH L STP and the CTH L Bridge projects were published on the County web site with bids due March 11. Hegeman noted there would be a public involvement hearing before construction began citing some concern for staging Med 4, however, emergency management was aware of the closure.

#### **18. Future Agenda Items**

- Approval of the 2025 Engineer Roster
- Patrol truck proposal results
- Response from WisDOT regarding request to increase RMA funding
- Facility condition assessment report

#### **19. Public comments**

None

#### **20. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

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Committee Chairman

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Committee Secretary